Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as shown below.

1.   (Canceled).

2.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein the application descriptor is stored at a network node, the network node performing administrative tasks with respect to the distributed application.

3.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein the application descriptor is used for at least one of configuration, deployment of the distributed application.

4.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein the distributed application is installed on a network including an application server, a middleware server and a mobile device.

5.   (Previously Presented) A method for representing a software application operating within a mobile environment, the software application including a collective behavior of a mobile device, a middleware server and a backend server comprising:

specifying a behavior for the mobile device;

identifying at least one first resource to be associated with the mobile device, at least one second resource to be associated with the middleware server and at least one third resource to be associated with the backend server as a function of the specified behavior for the mobile device; and

storing an application descriptor, the application descriptor describing the association between the first resource, the second resource, the third resource and, respectively, the mobile device, the middleware server and the backend server, and the application descriptor maintaining a representation of configuration settings for each mobile device participating in the software application, wherein the representation of configuration settings includes resources that are currently installed on a respective mobile device with respect to the software application.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 5, wherein the application descriptor is stored at a network node, the network node performing administrative tasks with respect to the software application.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 5, wherein the application descriptor is used for at least one of configuration, deployment of the software application.

8.   (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the at least one first resource, the at least one second resource and the at least one third resource are deployed to at least one of the mobile device, the middleware server and the backend server as a function of the application descriptor.

9.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing thereon program instructions that, when executed, cause an executing device to form a data structure for representing an application descriptor, the data structure including:

a first unique identifier for representing a software application distributed in the network;

~~at least one~~ a second unique identifier specifying ~~at least one~~ a computing device to participate in the software application;

at least one third unique identifier specifying at least one resource type, wherein the third unique identifier is associated with the ~~at least one~~ second unique identifier indicating that a resource identified by the at least one resource type is to be installed on the ~~at least one~~ computing device; and

an association between each of the ~~at least one~~ computing device and the at least one resource type, wherein the association is formed by associating the third unique identifier with the second unique identifier, and the association is used to generate a fourth unique identifier for the resource to be installed on the ~~at least one~~ computing device.

10.   (Previously Presented) A system for administering a distributed software application including a collective behavior of a plurality of computing devices within a network comprising:

a server including a processor;

a database for storing at least one application descriptor, the at least one application descriptor representing an association between the distributed software application, computing

devices participating in the distributed software application and resources to be associated with the computing devices, and wherein the at least one application descriptor maintains a representation of configuration settings for each of the computing devices participating in the distributed software application, wherein the representation of configuration settings includes information about resources currently installed on a respective computing device with respect to the distributed software application; and

at least one administrative module on the server, wherein the processor of the server, utilizing the at least one administrative module and the at least one application descriptor stored in the database, performs administrative tasks for the distributed software application with respect to the computing devices participating in the distributed software application.

11. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 10, wherein the administrative tasks include at least one of configuration, deployment, and updating of the distributed software application.

12. (Canceled).

13. (Previously Presented) The program storage device according to claim 19, wherein the application descriptor is stored at a network node, the network node performing administrative tasks with respect to the distributed application.

14. (Previously Presented) The program storage device according to claim 19, wherein the application descriptor is used for at least one of configuration, deployment of the distributed application.

15. (Previously Presented) The program storage device according to claim 19, wherein the distributed application is installed on a network including an application server, a middleware server and a mobile device.

16-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) A method for representing a distributed software application comprising:

deploying a distributed application in a network, the distributed application governing a collective behavior of computing device(s), the computing device(s) having respective resources for the distributed application;

storing an application descriptor for the distributed application on a server accessible by the computing device(s), the application descriptor storing: a list of all resources necessary for the distributed application, and a representation of configuration settings for each computing device participating in the distributed application with respective resources for the distributed application installed thereon; and

managing all resources for the distributed application and automatically configuring the computing device(s) using the application descriptor, including generating a resource identifier for a respective resource to be installed on a respective computing device from the application descriptor and an identifier of the respective computing device.

19.   (Previously Presented) A program storage device, said program storage device including instructions for representing a distributed software application in a network comprising:

deploying a distributed application in a network, the distributed application governing a collective behavior of computing device(s), the computing device(s) having respective resources for the distributed application;

storing an application descriptor for the distributed application on a server accessible by the computing device(s), the application descriptor storing: a list of all resources necessary for the distributed application, and a representation of configuration settings for each computing device participating in the distributed application with respective resources for the distributed application installed thereon; and

managing all resources for the distributed application and automatically configuring the computing device(s) using the application descriptor, including generating a resource identifier for a respective resource to be installed on a respective computing device from the application descriptor and an identifier of the respective computing device.